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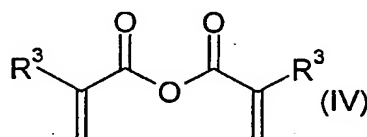
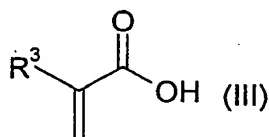
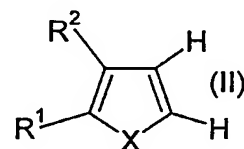
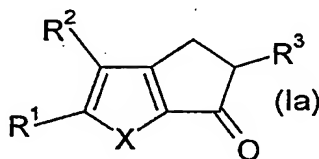
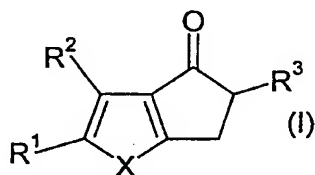
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(54) Title: PREPARATION OF HETEROCYCLIC KETONES



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a process for preparing heterocyclic ketones of the formulae (I) and (Ia), by reacting a heterocyclic compound of the formula (II), with an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid of the formula (III), or with its anhydride of the formula (IV), where  $R^1$  is hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$  carbon-containing group,  $R^2$  is hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$  carbon-containing group, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together form a cyclic ring system,  $R^3$  is a  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$  carbon-containing group and X is an element of the 16th group of the Periodic Table or is a divalent nitrogen group  $-(N-R^4)-$ , where  $R^4$  is an electron-withdrawing radical which is selected from the group consisting of perhalogenated  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$  carbon-containing radicals and  $C_1$ - $C_{40}$  organosulfonyl groups.